



## **PUBLIC NOTICE OF DRAFT OFFSITE REMOVAL ACTION WORKPLAN AND NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**Former PureGro Company  
1025 River Drive, Brawley, California**

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** December 27, 2005 to January 30, 2006

**PUBLIC MEETING:** Lion's Club on January 19, 2006 at 6:30 p.m.

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) invites the public to comment on the draft Offsite Removal Action Workplan (RAW) for the former PureGro Company Site in Brawley. The plan, if approved, will authorize the excavation of soil from adjoining offsite properties north and east of the site to mitigate potential future risks. The soil contains concentrations of organochlorine pesticides that exceed California Human Health Screening Levels for residential use. These pesticides include dieldrin, endrin, toxaphene; 4, 4-DDE; and 4, 4-DDT. The plan calls for the removal of approximately 12,700 cubic yards of contaminated soil. Clean soil will be imported to backfill the areas where soil was removed. DTSC has evaluated the plan and its potential environmental effects under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and determined that the removal action will not cause significant effects to public health or the environment. DTSC has prepared a Notice of Exemption (NOE).

In addition to the 30-day comment period, we are holding a public meeting to give you more information on the draft cleanup plan, take written and oral comments and answer questions from the community. The meeting will be held on January 19th at 6:30 p.m. at the Lion's Center located at 225 "A" Street in the city of Brawley. Our agency, the Department of Toxic Substances Control, will oversee the cleanup to help ensure the surrounding public is protected.

The Site is the former location of an agricultural business that manufactured and distributed chemicals products during the 1940s until operations ceased in 2000. Other substances reportedly used or were stored at the facility include phosphoric acid, herbicides, liquid ammonia, solvents, hydrocarbon fuels (gasoline and diesel fuel), and various agricultural fertilizers. Laboratory results from previous investigations conducted at the Site between 1994 and 2004 indicate that the pesticides are present. The concentrations of these pesticides exceed U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IX Preliminary Remedial Goals (PRGs) for residential use.

We encourage you to review and comment on both the draft cleanup plan and the Notice of Exemption during the 30-day comment period of December 27, 2005 to January 30, 2006. Please send written comments to Ms. Rania Zabaneh, DTSC Project Manager, 5796 Corporate Ave., Cypress, CA 90630 at 714-484-5479 or [rzabaneh@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:rzabaneh@dtsc.ca.gov). All comments must be submitted in writing or via electronic mail and must be postmarked or received via e-mail no later than January 30, 2006. Should you need additional information, please contact Ms. Rania Zabaneh via email or telephone. For information in Spanish, please contact Ms. Leticia Hernandez at 714-484-5488.

The draft cleanup plan and NOE are available for review and comment. These documents are located at the following locations:

Brawley Public Library  
400 Main Street, Brawley, CA 92227  
(760) 344-1891  
Monday – Thursday: 12pm-8pm  
Saturday: 9am-5pm  
Friday and Sunday: Closed

Department of Toxic Substances Control  
5796 Corporate Avenue  
Cypress, CA 90630  
Contact: File Coordinators at  
(714) 484-5337 or (714) 484-5336  
Call for an appointment

**NOTICE TO THE HEARING IMPAIRED:**

TDD users can obtain information about this site by using the California State Relay Service at 888-877-5378. Please ask to speak with Ms. Rania Zabaneh at 714-484-5479. For information in Spanish, please contact Ms. Leticia Hernandez at 714-484-5488.